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311424Z Mar 05

UNCLAS BRATISLAVA 000272

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

STATE FOR NP/CBM

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [ETTC](#) [LO](#)

SUBJECT: SLOVAKS ON AUSTRALIA GROUP AND NPT CONFERENCES

REF: (A) STATE 49648 (B) STATE 56903 (C) BRATISLAVA 209

Australia Group

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1. (U) Poloff delivered reftel demarches March 31 to Karol Mistrik, Director of the MFA's Department of Disarmament, OSCE, and Counter-Terrorism, and his deputy, Henrik Markus. Mistrik confirmed he will lead the delegation to Sydney, accompanied by representatives from the Ministries of Economy, Interior, and Defense as well a representative of the Customs Directorate. The Slovak delegation is preparing three presentations for the conference to "contribute to the common knowledge and experience." These will include a presentation on information exchanges, a Customs/Ministry of Economy-led discussion of law enforcement issues, and a possible third presentation on handling of classified information. Mistrik said the third presentation would be a practical "how to" presentation on implementing classified information laws while working with multilateral export control regimes. (NOTE: Mistrik mentioned at a previous meeting that the GOS clearly understood and accepted the U.S. call to participate more actively at AG plenary sessions -- ref C. He suggested the GOS is following up on its previous pledge to participate actively in Sydney.)

NPT Conference

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2. (U) MFA State Secretary, Magdalena Vasaryova, will lead the Slovak delegation to New York for the NPT Conference. The delegation will include representatives from the Nuclear Regulatory Authority, the Disarmament Department at the MFA, the Slovak representation in New York, and the Slovak representation to the Arms Control IOs in Vienna. Slovak participants will alternate, staying in New York for one week at a time.

3. (SBU) Mistrik voiced concern that the lack of a firmly agreed upon agenda would stifle the effectiveness of the conference. He predicted the first days of the conference would be wasted with debates over the discussion's emphasis rather than on substance. The GOS has divided its positions into matters of EU responsibility and matters of national prerogative. The Nuclear Regulatory Authority plans to discuss technical matters concerning the use of nuclear energy. Political positions at the conference will follow FM Kukan's March 17 comments at the Conference of Disarmament (faxed to NP/CBM) focusing on nonproliferation and the need to keep states within the NPT framework. Mistrik urged concrete steps from all states to make the NPT succeed. He said the NPT has been in stagnation since 1996; only a reinvigorated NPT framework can produce progress on nonproliferation goals.

THAYER

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